

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

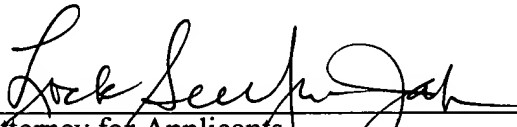
Each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

To the best of Applicants' knowledge, neither a final Office Action nor a Notice of Allowance has been mailed for this application.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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